

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2301**

October 29, 2020

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The Honorable Eugene Scalia  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Scalia,

I write today regarding a recent development in which a California-based company is threatening to terminate the employment of approximately 500 of its employees in Rochester, MN if the employees do not renegotiate their existing labor contract.

Angeles Equity Partners – the owner of Rochester-based Crenlo Engineered Cabs, which employs nearly 500 southern Minnesotans across three facilities – recently notified the UAW Local 2125 that the company was “reviewing business practices” and threatened to close all three Rochester facilities if the current labor contract is not renegotiated.

The Crenlo employees’ current contract is less than a year old – signed in December 2019 – and does not expire until 2024. Even though the employees were notified only at the end of September of potential changes, Angeles leadership is asserting that changes could come as soon as November 1. Additionally, the company’s terms for maintaining the jobs and facilities in Rochester include:

- Reducing a 2.5 percent pay raise scheduled for December 2020 to 1 percent;
- Reducing the 3 percent pay raise scheduled for 2021 to 1 percent;
- Reducing the 2.5 percent increase in 2022 to 1.5 percent; as well as,
- Changes to health and dental insurance plans and overtime and holiday pay calculations – among other issues.

The union has attempted to accommodate the company’s short notice and hold a vote to renegotiate the labor contract off-site at a venue that allows for proper social distancing and COVID-19 precautions, however Angeles is refusing to pay for these accommodations.

The conduct of Angeles Equity Partners is, at the very best, unreasonable and indecent, and quite possibly illegal. In a time of such uncertainty, when so many Minnesotans are struggling to make ends meet, it is our obligation to do all we can to protect and preserve the livelihoods of our honest, hardworking Americans and their families. That is why I am requesting that the U.S. Department of Labor step in and thoroughly examine this situation to ensure that all rights and legal protections of the Crenlo employees in Rochester are upheld and exercised through each step of this process.

Sincerely,



Jim Hagedorn  
Member of Congress